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## **City of Salisbury Mayor's Spirit Luncheon to Honor Former Mayor Paul Leake Bernhardt**

*Salisbury City Council and Covenant Community Connection to Uplift Bernhardt's  
Outstanding Spirit of Public Service*

Salisbury, NC\_October 5, 2009 – Salisbury Mayor Susan Kluttz, in conjunction with City Council Members and the Covenant Community Connection, will graciously welcome attendees to the 2009 Mayor's Spirit Luncheon, to be held at noon on Tuesday, October 6. The program, entitled "Salisbury Spirit of Public Service: Tribute to Former Mayor Paul Leake Bernhardt," will take place at Salisbury City Hall, 217 South Main Street. The bi-annual event highlights successes within the community that have improved race relations. A diverse audience, consisting of local businessmen and women, faith leaders and citizens, will receive a motivational program highlighting the life of service performed by Bernhardt to better the community.

Mayor Kluttz notes, "On behalf of the Salisbury City Council, I would like to sincerely thank Former Mayor Paul Bernhardt for his lifelong devotion to our community. Through a genuine commitment to Salisbury, we honor Paul for his dedication as a councilman, his leadership as mayor, and his valued service as a downtown merchant. Through positive perspective, Paul and many dedicated community leaders worked together to create peaceful and innovative solutions during difficult times. By respecting and engaging the viewpoints of each other, these individuals displayed resolve and a true commitment to the citizens of Salisbury. This spirit of accord continues to serve as a guide for those who follow in their footsteps; these contributions helped lay the foundation for the success of our city. We honor Former Mayor Paul Bernhardt for his continued contributions to Salisbury still today and for his lifetime of public service."

Luncheon attendees will enjoy port-a-pit barbecue chicken dinners, purchased in support of the annual Habit for Humanity fundraising project. As is customary, Mayor Kluttz will introduce three local diverse clergy and faith leaders to offer the invocation through blessings, prayers, and songs of praise. The Mayor shares, "We are a community filled with many different races, religions, and cultures. By sharing these various invocations, we are better able to comprehend the diversity

of our many faiths. The purpose of today's luncheon is to bring together people of different races, ethnicities, and beliefs, through a kindred spirit of fellowship. Mayor Kluttz notes that Spirit Celebrations have taken place in Salisbury since 1999. Each program is reflective of people or organizations that have contributed to community harmony through a spirit of diversity and inclusion. Kluttz adds, "By encouraging and promoting better race relations within our own community, we take giant steps in our efforts to create a world filled with understanding and compassion for others."

The City of Salisbury is an equal opportunity employer with over 180 different job classifications and over 400 full time positions. For more information regarding the City of Salisbury and its services and departments, please visit us on the World Wide Web at [www.salisburync.gov](http://www.salisburync.gov) or join us on Facebook via the City of Salisbury Users Group.

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